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All 50 State Seals

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The Great Seal of Hawaii



The seal of the state of Hawaii features a grand image of King Kamehameha I, royally dressed and holding his staff, and a classic rendition of Liberty, holding the Hawaiian flag, on either side of a heraldic shield. A Phoenix rises up from native foliage. The date 1959, representing Hawaii's statehood, displays prominently. Wording on the seal reads "State of Hawaii" across the top. On the bottom of the seal is a quote attributed to King Kamehameha III, after a British admiral

attempted a takeover in 1843: "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono", translated as "The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness."

State Statute.

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Hawaii State Government

SYMBOLS & MONUMENTS

The State Seal

The seal was originally designed by Viggo Jacobsen for the then-Republic of Hawaii in 1895. The seal is a modified version of the royal coat of arms of the Hawaiian kingdom. Where the royal seal had two warriors, the state seal has King Kamehameha the Great on one side and the Goddess of Liberty on the other holding the Hawaiian flag.

The regal crown was replaced by the sun and the year 1959, which was when Hawaii officially became a state. The star in the center of the shield replaced canoe paddles crossed against a sail.

The Phoenix below the shield is new. In other places, emblems or royalty were replaced by emblems symbolic of a new Hawaii.

The state motto remains the same as that of the kingdom: "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono." Its translation is: "The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness."

The State Flag

Hawaii's state flag resembles the Union Jack of Great Britain because many of King Kamehameha's advisors were British and the islands were once placed under England's protection.

The flag consists of eight horizontal stripes, representing the eight major islands, and the British Union Jack. It has served as the flag of the kingdom, republic, territory, and the state of Hawaii.

The State Bird

The nene, or Hawaiian Goose, is the state bird of Hawaii.

Once nearly extinct, it has been rescued through the valiant efforts of conservationists here in the islands and throughout the world.

The State Flower

The striking and beautiful yellow hibiscus (hibiscus brackenridgei), known as the pua aloalo in the Hawaiian

language, is the state flower.

It is believed that there were originally only five species of hibiscus native to Hawaii. Later other varieties were imported and growers began to develop hybrids to produce the kaleidoscope of colors and sizes found today.

The state flower graces the background of the Hawaii State Governmet web pages.

The State Tree

The kukui is the state tree of Hawaii.

Also known as the candlenut, the kukui was a most useful tree to the early Hawaiians who used it for oil, light, and other purposes.

The State Fish

The tiny, colorful fish with the long name - humuhumunukunuku apua'a -was designated as the state fish in 1985. The Rectangular Triggerfish is indigenous to Hawaii. It was selected after a high-profile campaign to educate the public about the kinds of fish that inhabit Hawaiian waters.

The State Gem

The black coral which grows in Hawaii's offshore waters has been established as the official state gem.

Since its discovery by early Hawaiian divers, harvesting of the spectacular corals has led to the establishment of a thriving black coral jewelry industry and enhanced visitor and resident appreciation of Hawaii's ocean resources.

The State Marine Mammal

Each winter, Hawaii welcomes and shelters entire herds of humpback whales as they migrate from northern waters to their traditional calving grounds off the island of Maui.

This spectacular animal has been designated the official state marine mammal. Hawaii offers a safe haven for the humpback, and the opportunity for the scientific community to study whales in a protected environment.

The Eternal Flame

The Eternal Flame burns as a tribute to the men and women of Hawaii who have served in our armed services in the defense of liberty, freedom, and justice.

It burns not only in memory of those who have made the greatest possible sacrifices for their fellow citizens, but as a

Hawaii State Government Home Page: About the State of Hawaii: Symbols and Monum... Page 3 of 3

beacon of courage and hope for all mankind.

The Liberty Bell

The Liberty Bell is a national symbol of liberty, freedom, and democracy.

Presented to the State of Hawaii in 1950 by the federal government, it stands as a testimony to the proud history of the United States and as an affirmation of the ideals and principles that have shaped our nation and the world.

Before sending a question to webmaster@hawaii.gov, please check the copyright © 1995-2005 Frequently Asked Questions page. Last updated on 12 May 2005.



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All 50 Sta

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The Great Seal of Idaho



The following information at Seal (from

http://www2.state.id.us/gov/fis so complete and interesting to include much of it here ver

HISTORY OF THE GREATHE STATE

SEAL FOR IDAHO TERRITOR

No official record remains of the first Great Seal of Idaho v territory in 1863. The design: Silas D. Cochran, a clerk in the Secretary of State.

IDAHO'S FINAL SEAL BEFOR

1890

Dissatisfaction with the official seal caused Governor Caleb Lyon to present a sedesign which was accepted by the Idaho Territorial Legislature on January 11, was controversial and was redrawn several times. Nevertheless, it was used unt state in 1890.

IDAHO HAS THE ONLY GREAT SEAL DESIGNED BY A WOMAN

By Suzanne Taylor

Idaho became a state on July 3, 1890 and that same summer a talented young we the state capitol at Boise to visit relatives. Emma Sarah Etine Edwards (later she man James G. Green) was the daughter of John C. Edwards, a former Governor (1844-48) who had emigrated to Stockton, California where he acquired large I beautiful French Creole wife, Emma Catherine Richards, and became Mayor of about that order.

Emma, eldest of a family of eight, was exceptionally well educated for a woma and when she dropped into Boise, it was on her way home from a year spent at York. However, what was to be a very short visit turned into a lifelong stay, for with the charming city and its people and opened art classes where the young p community learned to paint.

Shortly after her classes started, she was invited to enter a design for the Great of Idaho. Acting on Concurrent Resolution No. 1, adopted by the First Legislati

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Find facts about your ancestors birthplace, occupation and more. genealogy.com

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Find homes, property, real estate, and Realtors. Expert Advice. www.Calhoun-Real-Estate.com

Twin Falls Real Estate

Register to Search MLS for Free. Compare Homes and Find an Agent. Multiple-Listing-Search net state in the union, a committee was appointed from that body and instructed to offer a prize of one hundred dollars for the best design submitted.

Artists from all over the country entered the competition, but the unanimous winner was young Emma Edwards, who became the first and only woman to design the Great Seal of a State. She was handed the honorarium by Governor Norman B. Willey on March 5, 1891. The state flag also carries the seal centered on a deep blue background.

Emma Edwards Green had no children of her own, but assisted in rearing a nephew, Darell B. Edwards, a distinguished Oakland attorney. Ralph Edwards of "This is Your Life," also a nephew, shows a valid artistic strain flourished in the Edwards family. Mrs. Green died in Boise January 6, 1942. She was buried beside her husband in Oakland, California.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IDAHO STATE SEAL

By Emma Edwards Green, the Designer

Before designing the seal, I was careful to make a thorough study of the resources and future possibilities of the State. I invited the advice and counsel of every member of the Legislature and other citizens qualified to help in creating a Seal of State that really represented Idaho at that time. Idaho had been admitted into the Union on July 3rd, 1890. The first state Legislature met in Boise on December 8, 1890, and on March 14th, 1891, adopted my design for the Great Seal of the State of Idaho.

The question of Woman Suffrage was being agitated somewhat, and as leading men and politicians agreed that Idaho would eventually give women the right to vote, and as mining was the chief industry, and the mining man the largest financial factor of the state at that time, I made the figure of the man the most prominent in the design, while that of the woman, signifying justice, as noted by the scales; liberty, as denoted by the liberty cap on the end of the spear, and equality with man as denoted by her position at his side, also signifies freedom. The pick and shovel held by the miner, and the ledge of rock beside which he stands, as well as the pieces of ore scattered about his feet, all indicate the chief occupation of the State. The stamp mill in the distance, which you can see by using a magnifying glass, is also typical of the mining interest of Idaho. The shield between the man and woman is emblematic of the protection they unite in giving the state. The large fir or pine tree in the foreground in the shield refers to Idaho's immense timber interests. The husbandman plowing on the left side of the shield, together with the sheaf of grain beneath the shield, are emblematic of Idaho's agricultural resources, while the cornucopias, or horns of plenty, refer to the horticultural. Idaho has a game law, which protects the elk and moose. The elk's head, therefore, rises above the shield. The state flower, the wild Syringa or Mock Orange, grows at the woman's feet, while the ripened wheat grows as high as her shoulder. The star signifies a new light in the galaxy of states. The river depicted in the shield is our mighty Snake or Shoshone River, a stream of great majesty.

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Take Our ID Survey And We'll Pay You \$300 In The Next 15 Minutes! HighPaySurveys.com In regard to the coloring of the emblems used in the making of the Great Seal of the State of Idaho, my principal desire was to use such colors as would typify pure Americanism and the history of the State. As Idaho was a virgin state, I robed my goddess in white and made the liberty cap on the end of the spear the same color. In representing the miner, I gave him the garb of the period suggested by such mining authorities as former United States Senator George Shoup, of Idaho, former Governor Norman B. Willey if Idaho, former Governor James H. Hawley of Idaho, and other mining men and early residents of the state who knew intimately the usual garb of the miner. Almost unanimously they said, "Do not put the miner in a red shirt." "Make the shirt a grayish brown," said Captain J.J. Wells, chairman of the Seal Committee. The "Light of the Mountains" is typified by the rosy glow which precedes the sunrise.

STATE SEAL NOW IN USE

In 1957, the thirty-fourth session of the Idaho legislature authorized the updating and improvement of the Great Seal in order to more clearly define Idaho's main industries, mining, agriculture and forestry as well as highlight the state's natural beauty. Paul B. Evans and the Caxton Printers, Ltd. were commissioned to revise the seal. This painting by Paul B. Evans officially replaced the original design by Emma Edwards Green and is designated as the "Official Copy." The official Great Seal of the State of Idaho can be seen in the office of the Secretary of State.

State Statute.







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Governor of the State of Idaho DIRK KEMPTHORNE





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History of the Great Seal of the State

SEAL FOR IDAHO TERRITORY 1863

No official record remains of the adoption of the first Great Seal of Idaho when it became a territory in 1863. The design is attributed to Silas D. Cochran, a clerk in the office of the Secretary of State.





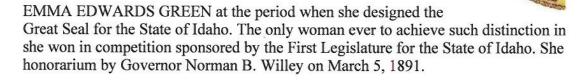


IDAHO'S FINAL SEAL BEFORE STATE!

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One of the most beautiful and impressive state seals, the original painting is held in tr Historical Society.

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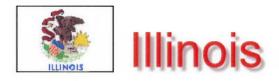
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All 50 State Seals

Select another state seal

The Great Seal of Illinois



The Great Seal of the State of Illinois features an eagle carrying a shield in its talons. Thirteen stars and thirteen stripes on the shield represent the original thirteen states of the Union. This basic design has survived through several modifications since it was first conceived in 1818, the year that Illinois gained statehood. The date of the state's first constitution, Aug. 26, 1818, appears along the bottom arc of the circle, and 1818, the year of statehood, displays on the seal below 1868, the year the current seal was adopted.

But what about that banner in the eagle's beak? And why is one of the words on the banner upside down? Here's where we get a hint of some intrigue and controversy...

When the banner first appeared on the seal, it read "State Sovereignty, National Union". But then, in 1867, the Secretary of State Sharon Tyndale decided that some changes should be made to the seal. Under Illinois law, the Secretary of State is the guardian of the seal, but changes need to be authorized by the General Assembly. So the Secretary of State approached Senator Allen Fuller with the idea of changing the seal, and the Senator brought the proposal to the General Assembly. Now this was all happening at the time when the Civil War and issues of state's rights were still fresh in the nation's mind, and one of the changes that Tyndale had proposed was a change to the wording on that banner in the eagle's beak. The Secretary's proposal was to have the words on the banner read "National Union, State Sovereignty", instead of "State Sovereignty, National Union". The General Assembly disagreed, and decided that the wording should remain unchanged. So, the Secretary went along with the General Assembly's decision and made the minor changes that were agreed upon... Almost. Perhaps it was a twinkle in the Secretary of State's eye (or maybe a bit of spite?), but the Secretary made one small change to that banner that still exists today -- the word "Sovereignty", which previously was as readable as any of the words on the banner, ended up being turned upside down on the 1868 seal. Intentional? Playful? Spiteful? Who knows?

State Statute.



Great Seal of the State of Illinois



Great Seal of the State of Illinois

About the symbol

The Seal shown above is the third design of the State Seal and the fourth overall design for an Illinois Seal.

The Secretary of State is the keeper of the keeper of the Great Seal. The State Seal can only be reproduced or used in strict accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes.

History of the Great Seal of the State of Illinois

The first seal used in what is now Illinois was the seal of the Northwest Territory in 1788.



Seal of the Illinois Territory (sketch)

Shortly after the Illinois Territory gained statehood in December 1818, the First General Assembly of the state decreed that state officials should procure a permanant State Seal. Like the Territorial Seal, the

Illinois State Seal Page 2 of 3

first State Seal was based on the Great Seal of the United States. However, unlike the Territorial Seal, the First (and subsequent) State Seals shows the eagle with a banner reading "State Sovereignty, National Union" in its mouth.



First Great Seal of the State of Illinois

The words "Seal of the State of Illinois" and the date "Aug. 26, 1818" appear between the inner and outer circles on the seal. The date refers to the date that the first Illinois Constitution was signed in Kaskaskia.

The Second Great Seal of the State of Illinois was a slight modification of the First. The eagle's wings were reduced somewhat, and the field of stars around the eagle's head were removed.



Second Great Seal of the State of Illinois

Until 1868 the Second Great Seal was the one in use. In January 1867 Secretary of State Sharon Tyndale told State Senator Allen C. Fuller that a new seal was needed. He asked Senator Fuller to sponsor a bill to authorize that new seal.

In the bill that Fuller sponsored, Tynsdale proposed changing the wording on the banner the eagle held to "National Union, State Sovereignty" from the original "State Sovereignty, National Union." The wording change proposal was in response to the states rights controversy that was critical to the, then recently, settled Civil War.

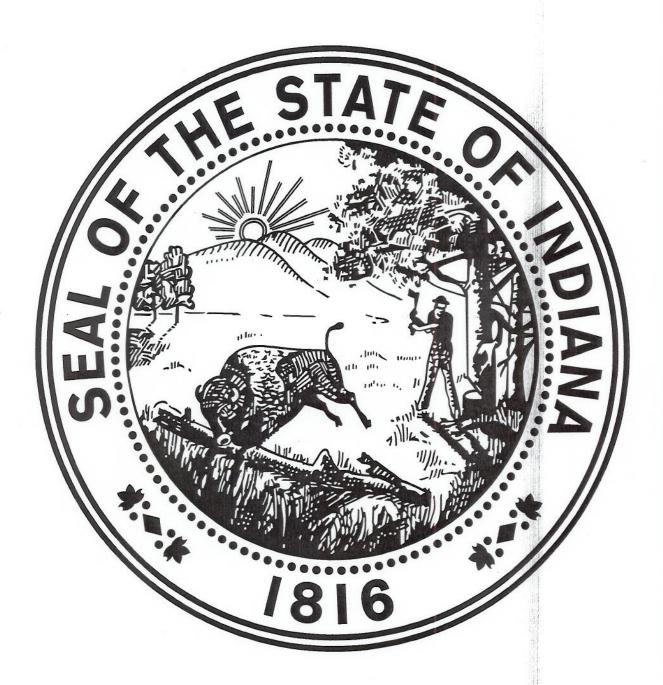
The Senate disagreed with Tynsdale's proposed wording change. A new State Seal was authorized of March 7, 1867; however, the amended bill restored the original wording. Although Tinsdale followed

Illinois State Seal Page 3 of 3

the General Assembly's decree that he not reverse the wording, he redesigned the seal in such a way that the words "National Union" are more prominent than the words "State Sovereignty."

The present Great Seal of the State of Illinois is essentially unchanged from the one produced by Tynsdale.

The date 1818 on the present Seal refers to the year Illinois became a state. The date 1868 refers to the date the seal was redesigned. The shield carried by the eagle shows thirteen stars and stripes representing the original states.



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All 50 State Seals

Select another state seal

The Great Seal of Indiana



The following text is from the Indiana Historical Bureau.

Emblems and special days are established by law and made a part of the Indiana Code (IC).

Versions of this pioneer scene have been used on Indiana seals since territorial days. They are found on official papers as early as 1801. A seal was provided for in both the 1816 and 1851 state constitutions. The

1963 General Assembly gave legal sanction to this design and provided an official description (IC 1-2-4). The elements are a woodsman, buffalo, sycamore trees, hills and a setting sun; leaves of the state tree are in the border design.

IC 1-2-4-1

Sec. 1. The official seal for the state of Indiana shall be described as follows:

A perfect circle, two and five eighths (2 5/8) inches in diameter, inclosed by a plain line. Another circle within the first, two and three eighths (2 3/8) inches in diameter inclosed by a beaded line, leaving a margin of one quarter (1/4) of an inch. In the top half of this margin are the words "Seal of the State of Indiana". At the bottom center, 1816, flanked on either side by a diamond, with two (2) dots and a leaf of the tulip tree (liriodendron tulipifera), at both ends of the diamond. The inner circle has two (2) trees in the left background, three (3) hills in the center background with nearly a full sun setting behind and between the first and second hill from the left.

There are fourteen (14) rays from the sun, starting with two (2) short ones on the left, the third being longer and then alternating, short and long. There are two (2) sycamore trees on the right, the larger one being nearer the center and having a notch cut nearly half way through, from the left side, a short distance above the ground. The woodsman is wearing a hat and holding his ax nearly perpendicular on his right. The ax blade is turned away from him and is even with his hat.

The buffalo is in the foreground, facing to the left of front. His tail is up, front feet on the ground with back feet in the air, as he jumps over a log. The ground has shoots of blue grass, in the area of the buffalo and woodsman. (Formerly: Acts 1963, c.207, s.1.)



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Indiana State Seal

Indiana State Seal

New information: Indiana's State Seal—An Overview

Indiana Code: IC 1-2-4-1

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January 27, 2005